



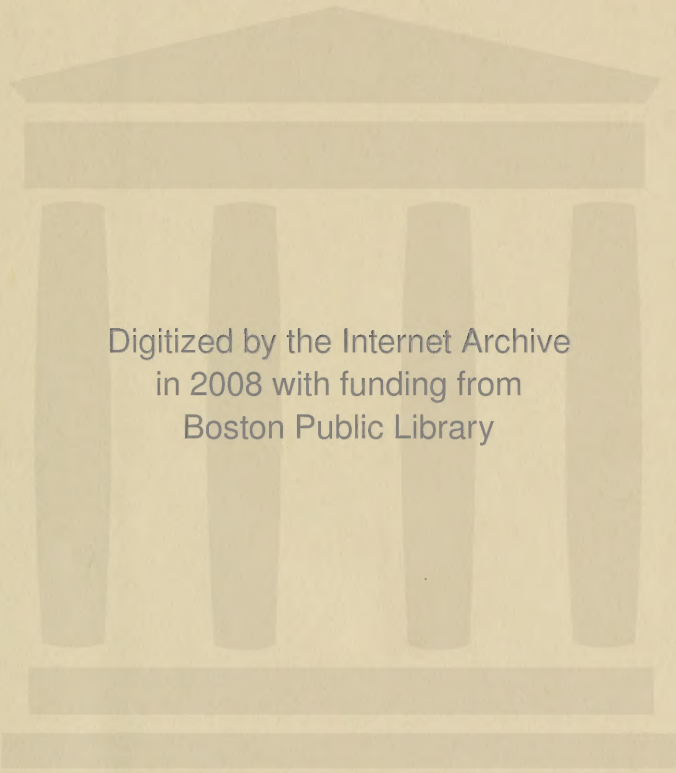
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# INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE LOS ANGELES, CALIF., AREA—PART 5

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## HEARING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EIGHTY-FOURTH CONGRESS FIRST SESSION

OCTOBER 13, 1955

Printed for the use of the Committee on Un-American Activities

INCLUDING INDEX

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## PUBLIC LAW 601, 79TH CONGRESS

The legislation under which the House Committee on Un-American Activities operates is Public Law 601, 79th Congress (1946), chapter 753, 2d session, which provides:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, \* \* \**

### PART 2—RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### RULE X

##### SEC. 121. STANDING COMMITTEES

\* \* \* \* \*

17. Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine members.

#### RULE XI

##### POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

\* \* \* \* \*

(q) (1) Committee on Un-American Activities.

(A) Un-American Activities.

(2) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time investigations of (i) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (ii) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (iii) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

The Committee on Un-American Activities shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House if the House is not in session) the results of any such investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.

For the purpose of any such investigation, the Committee on Un-American Activities, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary. Subpenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the committee or any subcommittee, or by any member designated by any such chairman, and may be served by any person designated by any such chairman or member.



## RULES ADOPTED BY THE 84TH CONGRESS

House Resolution 5, January 5, 1955

\* \* \* \* \*

### RULE X

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

1. There shall be elected by the House, at the commencement of each Congress, the following standing committees:

\* \* \* \* \*

(q) Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine members.

\* \* \* \* \*

### RULE XI

#### POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

\* \* \* \* \*

17. Committee on Un-American Activities.

(a) Un-American Activities.

(b) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time, investigations of (1) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (2) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (3) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

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# INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE LOS ANGELES, CALIF., AREA—Part 5

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1955

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,  
*Los Angeles, Calif.*

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

A subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to call, 11:25 a. m., in Los Angeles, Calif., Hon. Clyde Doyle (chairman) presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives Clyde Doyle, of California, and Donald L. Jackson, of California.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., counsel; and William A. Wheeler, investigator.

Mr. DOYLE. The subcommittee will please come to order. Will you rise and be sworn?

Do you solemnly swear that the evidence you shall give to this subcommittee shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. BRISTOL. I do.

## TESTIMONY OF ALSON A. BRISTOL

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state your name, please, sir?

Mr. BRISTOL. Alson A. Bristol.

Mr. TAVENNER. When and where were you born?

Mr. BRISTOL. Richmond, Nebr., 1906.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where do you now reside?

Mr. BRISTOL. My home is supposed to be in Los Angeles, but actually my furniture is in storage because I have been working in the Midwest since the first of the year. I expect to return there.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you first come to the State of California.

Mr. BRISTOL. 1924; Silvertown, Oreg.; the spring of 1924.

Mr. TAVENNER. The question was, When did you first come to California?

Mr. BRISTOL. Oh, I'm sorry. I came to California in 1948.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did you live prior to that?

Mr. BRISTOL. Seattle.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long did you live there?

Mr. BRISTOL. I went to Seattle in 1934.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, briefly what your formal educational training has been?

Mr. BRISTOL. For almost 5 years at the University of Oregon, but I still don't have my master's degree; not the right type of credits.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your last year of attendance at that school?

Mr. BRISTOL. I worked for the university and I carried classes at the same time. So I would say that was about probably 1933 or 1932.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did you live prior to going to Seattle in 1934?

Mr. BRISTOL. Eugene, Oreg.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long had you lived in Eugene, Oreg.?

Mr. BRISTOL. I started at the university there, and that must have been in 1926 or 1927. I worked 1 year and graduated in 1925. It would be 1927.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the nature of your employment in Eugene, Oreg.?

Mr. BRISTOL. I worked my way through school, and I started in the comptroller's office, I think, in my sophomore year, and I had the title of clerk in charge of office supplies.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your next employment?

Mr. BRISTOL. The next employment was in Seattle, Wash., with L. C. Larsen, a research association.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you so employed?

Mr. BRISTOL. About a year and a half or two years.

Mr. TAVENNER. That brings you up to what year?

Mr. BRISTOL. I would say either the fall of 1935 or the early winter of 1936.

Mr. TAVENNER. May we begin at that point after lunch?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes, sir.

Mr. DOYLE. Thank you very much.

(Thereupon, at 11:30 a. m., the hearing was recessed, to reconvene at 1 p. m. of the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION, OCTOBER 13, 1955

#### TESTIMONY OF ALSON A. BRISTOL—Resumed

Mr. TAVENNER. Previous to the recess, you stated that you were working for the Larsen firm.

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; L. C. Larsen was the exact name.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the nature of the work?

Mr. BRISTOL. Research.

Mr. TAVENNER. Research in what field?

Mr. BRISTOL. Statistical, primarily for unions.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your next employment?

Mr. BRISTOL. I became what was called a party functionary.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you mean a Community Party functionary?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; that's correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. When?

Mr. BRISTOL. It actually began on a part-time basis in the latter part of 1934, and then continued after the L. C. Larsen Co. went out of business.



Mr. TAVENNER. After you left the employment of Larsen, did you continue as a Communist Party functionary?

Mr. BRISTOL. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. For how long a period of time?

Mr. BRISTOL. Up until 1938—late 1938.

Mr. TAVENNER. From the time you left the Larsen Co. in 1938, did you have any employment other than employment by the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. That's right; no other employment.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee what your employment has been since 1938?

Mr. BRISTOL. I went to work for Sperry in Seattle, which is the west-coast division of General Mills, in their warehouse in Seattle. I went to work in 1939 and worked for them until I enlisted in the Army, which I think was sometime in 1942. I was in the Army for almost 4 years. Then after the Army, I opened a travel bureau in Seattle, primarily for Alaska.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the name of the travel bureau?

Mr. BRISTOL. Pan Pacific Good Neighbor Tours. We were located in the Seattle Chamber of Commerce Building in Seattle. And when—frankly, we went broke with it, so that's why we came to San Francisco.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you come to San Francisco?

Mr. BRISTOL. In 1948—early 1948; probably February or March. In San Francisco I worked for Fleischhacker Paper Box. I was with Fleischhacker until, I think late 1952, when I got a leave of absence from Fleischhacker in order to do the type of work I am doing now.

Mr. TAVENNER. What type of work are you doing now?

Mr. BRISTOL. I am working for an A. F. of L. Union as an organizer, organizing the unorganized plants; or in case there are organizational problems within one of our locals, try to straighten it out.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you state you became a part-time functionary of the Communist Party in 1934?

Mr. BRISTOL. That's correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you a member of the Communist Party before you became a part-time functionary of the party?

Mr. BRISTOL. It sounds incredible when I think back—but it was either the late winter of 1933 or early 1934 when I was still in Eugene, Oreg.

Mr. TAVENNER. You became a member of the Communist Party at Eugene, Oreg.

Mr. BRISTOL. That's right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you in school at that time?

Mr. BRISTOL. No. No; I left school and left the employment with the university I think—sometime in 1933, but prior to my getting into the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, the circumstances under which you became a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. Strange as it may seem, it is really not an easy thing to do. I have been thinking about it, particularly since I saw Mr. Wheeler last February or March, because there is just no one thing or two things that I can explain. I think the same reason I joined is the



same reason I am not in now. The only way I can analyze it is through my background and what happened in 1929, 1931, and 1932.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you speak a little louder, please?

Mr. BRISTOL. My grandfather in Silverton, Oreg., lost his life savings in that period. Both banks in Silverton, Oreg., went under. And I was raised in a very religious background, and at the university I was very active. In fact, I was student-secretary of the northwest area of the YMCA for 3 years. That included Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. I think primarily because of that background and the idealistic rather than a realistic approach to things explains how I found myself in the Communist Party. And I think for the same reasons that is why I eventually found that wasn't the solution.

Mr. TAVENNER. You did not find what you were looking for in the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. That is it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you become disillusioned?

Mr. BRISTOL. Correct. I wish I could be more specific, but there just isn't any one particular point, other than that background.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you leave the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. I dropped out in late 1938 and have been out ever since.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where were you living at the time you left the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. In Seattle, Wash.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you attended any Communist Party meetings since 1938?

Mr. BRISTOL. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you engaged in any Communist Party activities since that date?

Mr. BRISTOL. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you appear before this committee pursuant to a subpoena, or are you appearing here voluntarily?

Mr. BRISTOL. To my understanding it is voluntarily, because I don't know anything about a subpoena.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you first became a member of the Communist Party at Eugene, Oreg., were you assigned to a group or a cell of the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. No; because there wasn't any in Eugene at that time. But there was one before I left, made up of 2 or 3 students and 3 or 4 other people of that area.

Mr. TAVENNER. How were you recruited into the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. From two sources: Floyd Rapp, I think that's his name, a farmer, at Roseburg, Oreg., and Fred Walker from Portland, Oreg., who I believe was the State chairman of the Communist Party at that time in Oregon. They held a number of different kinds of meetings in Eugene in the summer and the late fall of 1933. I think it was through those contacts that I was approached and I joined.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you a member of the party before you moved from Eugene to Seattle?

Mr. BRISTOL. Approximately 6 months.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then your real activity in the Communist Party began in Seattle?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; I would say so.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did your part-time functionary work in the Communist Party begin immediately upon your employment by the Larsen Co.?

Mr. BRISTOL. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Explain that, please.

Mr. BRISTOL. Frankly, I think it was a means by which to get me to Seattle in order to do some Communist Party work, because at that time the party didn't pay much—maybe \$5, \$10, \$15, \$20 a week, and at that time I had a wife and 2 children to support.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was Mr. Larsen's full name?

Mr. BRISTOL. I always called him "L. C." It could have been Lars. In fact, I don't remember. We always called him "L. C."

Mr. TAVENNER. Was L. C. Larsen known to you to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he know that you were a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; he did.

Mr. TAVENNER. While you were employed by Larsen, what type of work did you do for the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. I was given the title of organizational secretary, and that's what I held when I was a full-time functionary. It consisted, to start with primarily, of organizing meetings, and there were certain annual affairs like a picnic and a bazaar, and so forth. Then it developed into a question of setting up during certain campaigns, which were also annual affairs, election campaigns or drives for support to this thing or that thing.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you speak of election campaigns, do you mean political elections?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; at that time the Communist Party ran its own candidates in the middle thirties.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who was the head of the Communist Party in the State of Washington at that time?

Mr. BRISTOL. Morris Rappaport.

Mr. TAVENNER. While a member of the Communist Party did you hold any other position beside that of organizer?

Mr. BRISTOL. I had the title of county secretary for the last few months I was in the Communist Party; could have been around a year.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you were an organizer were you confined to a section of the Communist Party, or was your field broader than that of a section?

Mr. BRISTOL. I worked for Morris Rappaport primarily. He was the one. He was called the district secretary.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did your activity cover the entire district?

Mr. BRISTOL. That's correct; although I very seldom got out of Seattle. His district included Oregon, Washington, and I guess Idaho also.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the number of the district?

Mr. BRISTOL. No. 12, I think, if I remember correctly.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you please tell the committee, the chief interest of the Communist Party in district 12 during the period you worked under Mr. Rappaport?

Mr. BRISTOL. I think when I first came in, one type of program was just coming to a close, and that was the unemployed demonstrations.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you mean unemployed councils?

Mr. BRISTOL. That's right; and demonstrations around relief, and so forth. Also, during that particular period when I first came in the so-called industrial unions were just being built or had been built before and were just continuing while I was in there. Then it changed to the so-called united-front program, and these industrial unions were dissolved or moved into—primarily the CIO movement at that time. Then emphasis was put in the Northwest on an organization there called the Washington Commonwealth Federation. I think that was its name when I first got acquainted with it. So, actually, there were two types of programs during that period, the change from one and then the developing of the other.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the old-age-pension group also involved in your work?

Mr. BRISTOL. No; not any more so than the Washington Commonwealth Federation, because the old-age-pension group, if I remember correctly, came out of the Washington Commonwealth Federation or it was sponsored by the Washington Commonwealth Federation. And the only connection I had with either was that the fact as far as the Communist Party was concerned—I think I am correct on this; I am trying to think back—but I actually think these two organizations were formed independently, and then the party tried to move in through the united-front tactic in both these organizations.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the Communist Party successful in penetrating both organizations?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; definitely.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is it correct to say that the success of Communist Party infiltration into those organizations resulted principally from the control that the Communist Party acquired over individual unemployed councils?

Mr. BRISTOL. Partly so. Also I think in those factors is a question of the so-called program. I mean something appeals to the people, and the so-called united-front program at that time did have some appeal. So probably a combination of both of those factors.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you hold any position with any labor union during the period of time you were a functionary in the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. No; nor any other organization. My activity in the Communist Party from the time I hit Seattle—I was a so-called known Communist. In fact, in those days the party was working more or less openly. But I did speak officially for the party on the radio a couple of times and at a couple of mass meetings. So I didn't belong to any other organization, any of the so-called front organizations or any trade union.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you an open member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. That's correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Describe the organizational work you did for the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. In addition to what I first described, which was primarily campaign manager for campaigns and mass meetings, and so forth, the second stage was a question of establishing the neighborhood units of the Communist Party, which was primarily a part of the change of the party policy at that time, to take the people



out of their so-called industrial units and to place them in neighborhood units, and it was the organizing and setting up of these so-called neighborhood branches—I think they were called that at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the purpose of the Communist Party, in taking its members out of industrial branches or cells of the Communist Party and concentrating them in neighborhood groups?

Mr. BRISTOL. It was part of the so-called united-front policy which would fit in with the Washington Commonwealth Federation, built on neighborhood legislative district structure, and would fit in. Primarily I think, that was the reason, because the united-front work was primarily based on political structure of the community to the neighborhoods.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you mean by establishing these neighborhood groups the Communist Party would be able to make its political power and influence more keenly felt in the Washington Commonwealth Federation?

Mr. BRISTOL. That's correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. What purpose did the Communist Party have in trying to wield political influence in the Washington Commonwealth Federation?

Mr. BRISTOL. I think their program has always been—as far as I can figure out—to be where the so-called, as they say, masses are, and the Washington Commonwealth Federation was a statewide mass movement at that time and it was supported by a very broad group of people throughout the State. And I think that's the reason why that party tactic was adopted.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall how many neighborhood groups you formed?

Mr. BRISTOL. They were built on the legislative-district basis, and we had one neighborhood branch in each legislative district in Seattle, and in the large geographical ones, probably two on the basis of geographic territory to cover. I don't remember how many districts there were in Seattle. Roughly, I would say 10 or 12, but then Seattle is primarily made up of King County.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the Communist Party successful in its program of infiltration of the Washington Commonwealth Federation?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; I would say yes, definitely.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did that success result in the Communist Party being able to either dictate or substantially influence political elections in the State of Washington during that period?

Mr. BRISTOL. Well, the reason I hesitate—I would say influence, yes, but the Commonwealth Federation was quite democratic, and the only time the party actually dictated to it was if they were at least able to convince the majority of the federation that they were correct. That was accomplished both through infiltration and also by winning over some of the leadership of the federation into the party or recruiting some of the leadership of the federation into the party. So I would say by influence, yes, perhaps it was able to dictate.

Mr. TAVENNER. Would you please give the committee the names of persons active in the Washington Commonwealth Federation who, to your personal knowledge, were recruited into the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. I will start at the top and try to work down.



Howard Costigan, who was actually the builder of the federation and later was recruited into the party.

Bill—a young fellow—I can't think of his name. Maybe it will come to me. He was Costigan's secretary for a number of years and then he eventually became head of the pension union. William Pen-nock.

A newspaper was put out. If I remember correctly, it was a paper that was put out primarily by the party first. I think it was called the Voice of Action in the Northwest. I don't know whether the Voice of Action dissolved or whether the Washington Commonwealth Federation was putting one out but eventually the Voice of Action dissolved. Jim Cour (Couer), was the editor. I don't know what they called it, the New Dealer or the Commonwealth Federation. Anyway, he was the editor of the paper that the Washington Commonwealth Federation put out regardless of its correct name.

There was a girl or two working in the office who were recruited, but I don't seem to recall their names at the moment.

And that's all of the staff, of the actual full-time staff of the Washington Commonwealth Federation. The rest of the federation was composed of elected delegates from the organizations, plus their own federation clubs.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you give us the names of the leaders of some of those clubs which were organized for the purpose of carrying out the program you have described? By looking back in your memory as to the organizational work you did in those various clubs, I should think you would be able to answer that question and recall who actively participated in the work.

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; I should. Unfortunately, I think two things have happened. One is that it was a long while ago, and unfortunately I think I have kind of psychologically blocked out that period. So I have to grope to think back, because I just haven't thought about it.

Mr. TAVENNER. I realize the difficulty of it.

Mr. BRISTOL. Let's see. There was a person who when I first came to Seattle was active in—we didn't call them unemployed councils up there, but they were in the unemployed groups, anyway—and he was also very active in the Commonwealth Federation. Bill Dobbins, something like that—and he was also active in the Commonwealth Federation.

I know what you want—those who were active members of the party at least who were also active in the Federation.

Mr. TAVENNER. I want to be sure that the persons whom you name were members of the Communist Party. Was the person to whom you just referred, Mr. Dobbins, a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes. The reason I hesitate a little bit is because Dobbins did break with the party and, I think, with the federation, if I remember correctly in 1935 or late 1934.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me suggest that in giving the names of any of these individuals, if you have information that they did break with the Communist Party, to so state.

Mr. BRISTOL. There was one name that pops up, Kinney. He was a trade unionist.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you spell his name?

Mr. BRISTOL. I imagine K-i-n-n-e-y. I think he was from the machinists or the boilermakers, I am not sure.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall his first name?

Mr. BRISTOL. Glen seems to go with Kinney. I think it was Glen Kinney. Let's see, some of the others that were active—I didn't have any contact with the so-called legislative section there because the Commonwealth Federation did elect a number of State legislators, and I think was also responsible at the time for the election of Hugh De Lacy, a Congressman. The rest of them were State legislators. But I wouldn't want to say which was which, who were members of the Communist Party and who were not, because I don't know for sure.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Hugh De Lacy known to you to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; although I never attended a meeting with him; but the way he worked with us, and so forth, I would say definitely he was at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Please state the names of any others you can recall.

Mr. BRISTOL. Let's see. At the moment I seem to be blank here. You see, I never attended a Washington Commonwealth Federation meeting myself.

Mr. TAVENNER. So as to insulate yourself against making a mistake, I again suggest that you approach the subject through your activities as an organizer of the Communist Party.

Mr. BRISTOL. In the neighborhood branches in the latter part of 1938 the whole emphasis was for everybody in the branch, if possible, to become active in the federation. What I was trying to think of was the leaders, but practically anybody who was in the party I think in 1938 was a member of the Washington Commonwealth Federation and helped support campaigns and so forth.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you give us the names of any persons active in the Communist Party in Idaho and Oregon while you were connected with the headquarters of district No. 12?

Mr. BRISTOL. I don't know of any in Idaho, although I think we did have a branch over around Coeur d'Alene; but I don't recall anyone from there. Fred Walker was in Portland. It seems to me there was a woman by the name of Olsen; I don't remember her first name. You see, about all we had in Oregon was Portland. I don't know of anything outside of Portland.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you, on leaving this hearing, endeavor to recall the names of those with whom you worked while you were an organizer of the Community Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. I shall do so.

Mr. TAVENNER. And furnish the investigator, Mr. Wheeler, with the product of your work.

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you please tell the committee, what success the Communist Party had in infiltrating the various labor councils in the State of Washington during the period of your active membership?

Mr. BRISTOL. I think that was probably—I don't know for sure, but I would estimate it was the peak of the Communist Party's influence in the labor movement. It started with the marine strikes in 1934, and then when the west-coast lumber and sawmill workers broke away from, I believe, the Carpenters International and formed

the CIO, it started an organizing drive. So I would say they had considerable success.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who in the Communist Party was principally responsible for that success?

Mr. BRISTOL. I would say three people: Morris Rappaport, Harry Jackson, and Ernest Fox, because they devoted most of their time—Harry Jackson and Ernest Fox devoted full time to it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were Communist Party functionaries from the East brought in to assist in that work?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; they were brought in to assist. Generally, while I was there, there were two, a fellow by the name of Lou Sass, and the other one was Andrew Remes. They were the only two who came and stayed. I can remember in 1934 Roy Hudson being in Seattle, but only for short periods of time. That is all, except for the youth. There were two. We called them in those days YCL, Young Communist League.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know where Harry Jackson is now?

Mr. BRISTOL. He is supposed to be somewhere in California. I ran into him in 1948 or 1949 in San Francisco.

Mr. TAVENNER. How was he employed at that time?

Mr. BRISTOL. I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. How is he employed now?

Mr. BRISTOL. I don't know. I haven't heard of him since or seen him since.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he a functionary of the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; he was a full-time functionary for the entire time I was in Seattle, also prior to me and after I left.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated that the Communist Party was successful in infiltrating the various labor councils. Can you give the names of any members of those councils whom you personally knew to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; perhaps a few. I didn't have too much direct contact. Let's see whom I haven't mentioned. Eugene Dennett, who was active, I think, in the CIO and prior to that in the Inland Boatmen's Union in Seattle.

Mr. TAVENNER. The record should disclose at this point that Mr. Dennett testified before this committee, admitted his membership in the Communist Party, and described fully the circumstances under which he withdrew from the Communist Party. He cooperated with the committee and appeared as one of the most intelligent witnesses the committee has heard on theoretical communism.

Can you give us the names of other members of the labor councils who were known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes; two have come into my mind. I want to remind you again that this was during the so-called transitional period, where they were dissolving the so-called independent industrial unions and going into the A. F. of L. or CIO.

I think it was James Murphy or Jim Murphy, from Portland, Oreg.—was the head during that period of the so-called Lumber and Sawmill Workers Industrial Union.

Another one of those industrial unions was the Fishermen's and Cannery Workers Industrial Union, in which Paul Dale was active.

Unfortunately, I know that field better than I do the bona fide labor movement of that period. I was trying to think—there was



somebody from the cooks' union. His name doesn't come to me. There were others from the marine unions, too, if I can just think of them.

Also Burt Nelson, I think his name was, from the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he known to you to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes. I would say definitely yes; at least during the late 1934's and early 1935's and maybe up to 1936.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you recall any others?

Mr. BRISTOL. I don't seem to at this time, but I should be able to.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you again endeavor to refresh your recollection and report the results to Mr. Wheeler?

Mr. BRISTOL. I shall do.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mentioned the Young Communist League in the course of your testimony. What connection did you have with the organizational work of the Young Communist League?

Mr. BRISTOL. None; other than with the organizers, because some of the campaigns that the party launched the league supported, of course, and only through the connection of drives or campaigns or meetings, and so forth, working with them in that respect. And there were two during that period whose names I can recall. Both of them came from the East. One was James West, and the other one I believe was Olsen; I can't remember his first name. That seems to be it.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the last organizational work that you did for the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. It was in these neighborhood branches.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a photostatic copy of a Communist Party membership card. Will you examine it, please and state whether or not you can identify it.

Mr. BRISTOL. It looks familiar.

Mr. TAVENNER. Whose Communist Party membership card is it?

Mr. BRISTOL. It's a copy of my—

Mr. TAVENNER. Yours?

Mr. BRISTOL. At least it's got my name on it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Issued in the year 1937?

Mr. BRISTOL. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the above-mentioned Communist Party membership card in evidence and ask that it be marked "Bristol Exhibit No. 1" for identification purposes and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. DOYLE. It will be received and so marked.

Mr. BRISTOL. And there was a person I think from the Sailors Union of the Pacific, Whitey Baxter. And that reminds me of Walter Stack, who was from the Marine, Firemen, Oilers, Watertenders & Wipers Association.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Whitey a nickname or was that his correct name?

Mr. BRISTOL. It was a nickname. I don't know—he was a light, white-haired fellow. That is why he was called Whitey. Baxter was his last name, I'm sure. And, of course, Walter Stack in Seattle at that time.



Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify Baxter a little more fully as to what he did or what union he was from?

Mr. BRISTOL. He was in the sailors' union, I am quite sure, and during that time I think he only made 1 or 2 trips. He spent the rest of the time, as they say, on the beach. I think he was probably in Seattle a full 2 years of those 4 years. Originally I think he was from New York City.

Let's go back here. In the Building Service Employees Union, Cole comes to my mind. I think his first name was Vern.

This second name I recall I believe was in the party in 1934, maybe early 1935, and then broke with the party. That was Jess Fletcher from the Building Service Employees Union.

Mr. TAVENNER. The record should show that Mr. Fletcher testified before the Canwell committee.

Will you please tell the committee what was the occasion of the termination of your position as a functionary in the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. I think the party was aware of what my thinking was prior to about—I would say 2 months prior to my dropping out. I was removed as a functionary, and I think it was on the basis of the fact that—what would we say?—my heart and soul wasn't in the work.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who removed you?

Mr. BRISTOL. Mr. Morris Rappaport—yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did I understand you to say that since that time you have not engaged in any Communist Party activity?

Mr. BRISTOL. That's correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the cause of your removal as a Communist Party functionary?

Mr. BRISTOL. Rephrasing it—I would say the lack of performance, and it came about, roughly, 2 months prior to my dropping out. I think I was removed as a full-time functionary maybe a month or so prior to a district bureau meeting, where I was called in and criticized, putting it bluntly, falling down on the job or not performing, which I think was typical of my attitude of mind.

As I said earlier, it was hard for me to put my fingers exactly on why I joined and why I dropped out. It was a question of searching, hoping to find something; and I didn't find it, but I didn't at that time have the answer.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that group which called you in, a review commission of the Communist Party, or what organization was it?

Mr. BRISTOL. It was called in those days a district bureau. It was made up primarily of the full-time functionaries of the district.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who were the full-time functionaries who participated in that meeting?

Mr. BRISTOL. Morris Rappaport, Harry Jackson; I believe both Lou Sass and Andrew Remes and Jim West. I don't know whether I mentioned Harry Jackson and Ernie Fox. Then there were some who were not full-time functionaries but leaders in the field. I believe Howard Costigan, somebody from the campus—

Mr. TAVENNER. What campus?

Mr. BRISTOL. University of Washington campus. Harold Eby, I believe his name was. I imagine that was probably the group. Thinking back, I can't recall anyone I have left out.

Mr. TAVENNER. I understand that you are now engaged in organizational work for a union; is that correct?

Mr. BRISTOL. That's correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. During the period of time that you have been such an organizer have you in any way lent encouragement to the Communist Party?

Mr. BRISTOL. Definitely no.

Mr. TAVENNER. In your opinion is there any contribution that the Communist Party can legitimately make to the work of your union?

Mr. BRISTOL. Definitely no.

If I may, I would like to say a little bit here. I am very definite on this, because if I had found what I have now found I never would have gotten into the Communist Party. I really do believe that the American labor movement is that balance that we need in our country to allow us to continue to maintain those things that we are part of, the American standard of living and democracy and civil liberties, racial equality and so forth. I am very definite that the Communist Party can contribute nothing to the American labor movement. In fact, it would be—wherever they attempt it—they are a hindrance to the American labor movement.

Mr. TAVENNER. I take it then that from your long period of experience with the Communist Party you would oppose infiltration of the Communist Party into the leadership of labor.

Mr. BRISTOL. Very definitely.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, that is all I have to ask.

Mr. JACKSON. I want to say on behalf of the committee how much we appreciate your cooperation and the big contribution which one in your position is able to make to the work of the committee and to an overall public knowledge of the Communist Party and its activities. With the thanks of the committee you are excused.

Mr. BRISTOL. I want to say one final word. Perhaps I should have done this years ago; but, frankly, I haven't liked the work of some of the committees. I was afraid that I might put somebody who had made a mistake like I had made unjustly, shall we say, on the carpet, and so forth. But from the way that this committee has worked and my relationship with Mr. Wheeler, I realize now that if I had known this sooner maybe it would have been better for everybody if I had done it earlier.

Mr. JACKSON. We are very happy to hear that. I think there is a wide misunderstanding about this committee and its operation. Certainly it is not the intention of this committee to persecute anyone. To the contrary, there are a great many things done from time to time by the committee to help people. So we are very happy to have your voluntary statement in the record, and we appreciate it very much.

Mr. BRISTOL. O. K., and thanks a lot.

(Whereupon, at 2:40 p. m., the executive hearing of the witness was adjourned.)

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION—continued

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Tavenner, call your next witness.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Frank Davis.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Davis, will you rise, please, and be sworn?

Do you solemnly swear that the evidence you shall give to this subcommittee shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. DAVIS. I do.

Mr. DOYLE. Thank you.

May the record show that the subcommittee of Representative Jackson and Representative Doyle (chairman), both members being present, is a subcommittee named by Hon. Francis E. Walter, of Pennsylvania, chairman of the Committee on Un-American Activities, for the purposes of conducting this executive hearing today.

### TESTIMONY OF FRANK DAVIS, ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSEL, JERRY PACTH

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state your name, please sir?

Mr. DAVIS. Frank Davis. No "C."

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you say that because there is a person by the name of Frank C. Davis who was a professor at some local university?

Mr. DAVIS. That's right; and with whom I think I have been confused at times; not always.

Mr. TAVENNER. It is noted that you are accompanied by counsel. Will counsel please identify himself for the record?

Mr. PACTH. Yes. My name is Jerry Pacht, of the firm of Pacht, Ross, Warne & Bernhard, Los Angeles.

Might I say just a word at this time with respect to Mr. Davis' appearance here? And I would like to note the fact that he is here, of course, voluntarily and, in fact, requested an opportunity to be present; and that he had been identified—or someone with his name had been identified in testimony in an open hearing before this committee, and when that happened we, on Mr. Davis' behalf contacted Mr. Wheeler and asked for an opportunity to set straight the record so far as Mr. Davis is concerned.

I would like to further observe that because of this identification—or we believe because of it—Mr. Davis has met with a problem of employability in his trade in the motion-picture industry, where he has been a writer and producer for nearly 35 years. When the matter arose, we had occasion to prepare with Mr. Davis' cooperation an affidavit to be submitted to certain persons in the motion-picture industry so that this would no longer be a problem there. I have a copy of that affidavit, and if the committee would like we would like to file it with the committee for its use. Mr. Davis, of course, is prepared to testify fully as to any matters about which you wish to interrogate him and has no reservation about appearing here today. We did want you to know that this affidavit, however, has been submitted, and we think that his employment problem has been licked in the industry, and that it has been satisfied.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Jackson, I think, without objection we would be glad to receive it.

Mr. JACKSON. Certainly.

Mr. PACTH. I would like to file it with you, then, Mr. Tavenner. That is, of course, a conformed copy of an affidavit dated I believe the 19th of September 1955, which has only been submitted to a few people in the motion-picture industry where Mr. Davis' apparent



identification with other causes became a problem, and particularly this problem of his confusion with another Frank Davis, whose mail he has even received from time to time.

Mr. JACKSON. I assume this is an affidavit executed under oath.

Mr. PACT. That's right, before a notary, and can be considered to have been under oath so far as this committee is concerned, too.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I suggest that the above-mentioned copy of the affidavit of the witness be marked "Frank Davis Exhibit No. 1," for identification purposes, and to be made a part of the files of the committee.

Mr. DOYLE. So ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. When and where were you born, Mr. Davis?

Mr. DAVIS. Chicago, Ill., October 24, 1897.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where do you now reside?

Mr. DAVIS. 1000 Villa Grove, Pacific Palisades, Calif.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you lived in California?

Mr. DAVIS. Since 1915.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your occupation or profession?

Mr. DAVIS. A screenwriter.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you please tell the committee what your formal educational training has been?

Mr. DAVIS. One year of college, at Berkeley. That's as far as I went.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you been engaged in your profession as a screenwriter?

Mr. DAVIS. Since 1939.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you please tell the committee what your principal screen credits have been?

Mr. DAVIS. The principal ones have been A Tree Grows in Brooklyn, Life of Will Rogers, Woman on the Beach, Fighting Father Dunn, Boy From Oklahoma, The Jazz Singer, Life of Jim Thorpe, Ten Tall Men, A Day To Remember, Are Husbands Necessary, Springfield Rifle. I think I have run out, for a while anyway.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you also been a producer?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes. I was a producer at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in 1939. I can't tell you when I first became a producer, because I went to work in 1921 as an assistant cutter, and I have been in the business since that time, since January, I believe, of 1921. And my various steps were assistant cutter, cutter, assistant producer, and producer: but I can't tell you when these various dates took place—that my positions changed. I was also in charge of the foreign department at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer at one time, but I don't know what years and for how long. But I was at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for 16 years, from 1923 to 1939, and then I left to become a writer.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you give us some of the credits which you earned as a producer?

Mr. DAVIS. Divorce in the Family, What, No Beer, Fast Workers, The Devil Is a Sissy, Lord Jeff, It's a Wonderful World, Madam X—there is one more I can't think of. I'm not so good on titles. I can't remember. There are 1 or 2 more. I don't remember their titles now. Those were all at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. I only produced there.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Davis, you are aware of the fact that the committee has from time to time made inquiries regarding Communist Party activities within the entertainment field here in Hollywood?



Mr. DAVIS. Yes. I have been before this committee.

Also in the affidavit you will see that the FBI has called on me before, too.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted with a person by the name of William Ward at any time during the period from 1935 until 1938?

Mr. DAVIS. I don't recall that name at all, at any time, William Ward. No. There was a songwriter named Ward at Metro, but not William Ward.

Mr. TAVENNER. This may help to refresh your recollection: William Ward's wife was named Clara Ward.

Mr. DAVIS. Neither of them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall her?

Mr. DAVIS. No; I do not.

Mr. TAVENNER. William Ward's real name was William Ward Kimple.

Mr. DAVIS. That's the reason I am here. That's the man whose name was in the paper last year. Or early this year, who said something about me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you at any time acquainted with him?

Mr. DAVIS. Never.

Mr. PACHT. Mr. Tavenner, may I interject at this point that one of the reasons that Mr. Davis asked for an opportunity to come before this committee was that all he knew as to the testimony of Mr. Kimple is what was reported in the newspapers, and it was a little jumbled so far as Mr. Davis is concerned. He is not yet aware of what testimony was given by Mr. Kimple and, if possible, we would like to be made aware of that.

Mr. Davis, of course, is perfectly willing and anxious to tell you anything that he has facts of; but he was naturally concerned when he or someone with the same name was identified by Mr. Kimple as having either been a Communist or having donated to the Communist Party, both of which Mr. Davis is prepared to deny.

Mr. JACKSON. Would you further identify Mr. Kimple, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. Mr. Kimple was a member of the police force of the city of Los Angeles and, after being given a course in training preparatory to his assignment, was assigned to work for the Police Department of the City of Los Angeles within the Communist Party. He performed that service for a period of approximately 8 years and rose to the position of assistant membership director of the Communist Party in the area of Los Angeles. Clara Kimple, his wife, also became a functionary in the Communist Party. Mr. Kimple has testified in the course of his appearances before the committee that he attended a meeting in the home of Beryl LaCava in Beverly Hills.

Mr. DAVIS. I know her. I did know her.

Mr. TAVENNER. And that you were present in her home at this meeting, and that at that meeting you turned over the sum of \$500 to his wife to give to the Communist Party, and that you stated that you would give that sum of money every month.

Mr. DAVIS. Well, I certainly knew Beryl LaCava and I was in her home many times. She, I'm sure, wasn't a Communist. I can't imagine at what time I would have met Kimple or his wife. I have

certainly never said that I would give \$500 to the Communist Party, and never gave \$500 to the Communist Party. That's all I can say.

Mr. JACKSON. Did Mr. Kimple identify this meeting as a meeting of the Communist Party, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. He said it was not a closed meeting of the Communist Party. He was asked the question:

Was this a closed meeting of the Communist Party where you met Frank Davis?

And his reply was:

No; it was an open meeting which was attended by sympathizers to the Communist Party who were invited to attend this meeting for the purpose of being solicited to donate funds to the Communist Party.

Do you recall making a gift of \$500 to the Communist Party? Or, rather, did you make such a gift?

Mr. DAVIS. No; I did not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you deliver the sum of \$500 to Mrs. Kimple, who was known in the Communist Party as Mrs. Ward?

Mr. DAVIS. No. I never gave a strange woman or anybody that I didn't know any money that I can remember. I'm sure I didn't.

Mr. PACHT. I think you will find an extended reference to a man named Stanley Lawrence in that affidavit, Mr. Tavenner, who was a man who did solicit funds from Mr. Davis; and Mr. Davis has testified I think fairly fully in that affidavit with respect to them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you traveled abroad at any time, Mr. Davis?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes; several times.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell us when?

Mr. DAVIS. I went abroad, taken by my parents, when I was 2½ and again when I was 9, principally to England. I went abroad in the Army in 1917-18. I next went abroad in 1923, around the world, and then again in 1935. And I went at that time to England and Russia and Poland, Germany, France.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you been abroad since 1935?

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, yes. I was abroad in 1950; 5 years ago.

Mr. TAVENNER. At the time that you went abroad in 1935 when you went to the Soviet Union, were you the owner of an automobile?

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, yes. I had—sure; yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. What kind, do you remember?

Mr. DAVIS. Well, let me see. 1935?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. DAVIS. I think I had two at that time; I'm not sure. But I had a Plymouth and I think I had a Ford also. My mother—I'm not sure. I sold the Ford. I'm not sure whether I sold the Ford just before I went away; I think I did. Yes; I believe I sold the Ford before I went away and not after I came back. I can't swear to that, but I think it would have been good economics to have sold it before I went away.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you sell the Plymouth before you went away?

Mr. DAVIS. No. Let me see. I would have to think what my next car was. I think that I turned the Plymouth in on my next car, and I can't remember what my next car was.

Mr. TAVENNER. What type of Ford car was it that you owned?

Mr. DAVIS. A coupe, I think. They were both—the Plymouth was a convertible, I think.

Mr. TAVENNER. And the Ford was what?

Mr. DAVIS. No; I can't say. It's too—perhaps they were both convertibles. I have always liked convertibles. I wouldn't be surprised. I really don't know, but I did have a Ford and I know I had a Ford and a Plymouth out at the same time at one time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did I understand you to say that the Ford was your mother's car?

Mr. DAVIS. No. I needed two cars because a nurse used to take her riding in the car. She wasn't well, and I needed 2, 1 for her. She couldn't drive.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the title to the Ford car in your name?

Mr. DAVIS. I'm pretty sure, yes; yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long had you owned it?

Mr. DAVIS. I really don't know. It would be a pure guess. I have no idea.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you recall the model, that is, the year?

Mr. DAVIS. Well, I suppose it would be a 1934 or a 1935, I should think, if I sold it then. I don't think I had had it too long. The Plymouth I think was older. I had the Plymouth out longer than the Ford, I know that.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated that you disposed of it just before your trip in 1935.

Mr. DAVIS. I think I did. It could have been afterward, but I think it was before. I'm not sure.

Mr. TAVENNER. To whom did you sell it?

Mr. DAVIS. I don't know. Now, there was a—I sold it through the gas station at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, I think. Yes; I think that's where I got rid of it because—yes; somebody through the gas station I believe I got rid of it because I know I didn't turn it in on anything.

Mr. TAVENNER. What gas station was that?

Mr. DAVIS. The one where we kept our cars at Metro, right across from the entrance.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the name of it?

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, I don't remember. I have no idea. I haven't the slightest idea; even whether it had a name I'm not sure. It was mainly a parking station. There was an attendant there.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall from whom you purchased the car?

Mr. DAVIS. No. It was a new car, I believe. From an agency. I don't remember; no.

Mr. TAVENNER. Wouldn't you recall where you bought the car?

Mr. PACT. In 1935, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. DAVIS. I haven't the slightest idea. I don't know where the Ford place is to this day. I know it was in Santa Monica. I'm pretty sure it was in Santa Monica. I wouldn't even swear to that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you owned more than one Ford car?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes. But I am trying to think. I don't think I have owned a Ford since then, though. Mostly Chryslers, and an Olds once. God, I don't know. I can't remember whether I bought a Stutz before or after that time, to tell you the truth. But I know I bought that Stutz at a gas station. It used to belong to Buster Keaton. Whether this was previous to this year you are speaking of, I really don't know. But I never bought second-hand cars. I'm pretty sure they were all new except the Stutz.



Mr. TAVENNER. This is the last Ford car you purchased, and it would seem that you should remember from whom you purchased it.

Mr. DAVIS. It was a new car, from an agency, a Ford agency, and I assume it was in—it was either Santa Monica or Culver City probably, because I went back and forth; never went into town.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can't you recall the place from which you bought the Ford?

Mr. DAVIS. No; not at all. I haven't the slightest idea where the place was.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you maintain insurance on the car?

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, sure; always.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who was your insurance agent?

Mr. DAVIS. I don't know. Maybe the automobile club. It could be. Automobile club or Broox Randall; I'm not sure.

Mr. TAVENNER. What automobile club in what city?

Mr. DAVIS. That would be Santa Monica.

Mr. TAVENNER. And what was the name of the insurance agency that you mentioned?

Mr. PACHT. E. Broox Randall.

Mr. DAVIS. It would be one or the other, the automobile club or Broox Randall. They are both clubs.

Mr. TAVENNER. Clubs?

Mr. DAVIS. They are both clubs.

Mr. TAVENNER. At the same place?

Mr. DAVIS. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. I mean in the same city?

Mr. DAVIS. No. I think Broox Randall was in Hollywood. I don't think they had a place then, but later on they got a place in Beverly Hills. I used to go into the Beverly Hills Broox Randall place. A man—I know the man's name that was there, because I was insured with them for years and years. His name was Watkins. Now, whether he ever insured my Ford, I'm not sure; I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was Watkins' first name?

Mr. DAVIS. I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Kimple has testified before the committee that you were about to leave for Soviet Russia on a trip and that you gave his wife the pink slip to a Ford automobile which was to be given to the Communist Party for Communist Party work. Does that refresh your recollection as to the disposition of the Ford?

Mr. DAVIS. No; it doesn't at all. It doesn't do anything, because that can't be true. I am positive that I disposed of this Ford through the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer place right opposite there. And it seems to me that either this car or some car, the man asked me if I didn't want to sell it. He had been after me for quite a while. And I said, "No." And then before I left, I said, O. K., and he gave me the money, or he bought it for somebody; I'm not sure. I don't know. This is all a long time ago. But I certainly never gave a woman a pink slip to the car and told her to use it for the Communist Party. That I know isn't true.

Mr. JACKSON. That you categorically deny?

Mr. DAVIS. I categorically deny that; yes.

Mr. JACKSON. That you transferred title to this vehicle or any other vehicle to any person without payment and for the purposes of the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. That's right. And now may I ask a question, or—it isn't important. I would rather wait until Mr. Tavenner finishes.

Mr. JACKSON. You say that you did not know Mr. Kimple?

Mr. DAVIS. No; I have never seen him in my life. If that's the picture of the man that was in the Times, I think there was a picture of him in the Times, I had never seen him to my knowledge in my life; never.

Mr. DOYLE. Did you ever attend any meeting in or about Hollywood or in Pacific Palisades where there was any speaker for the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, in the thirties I attended lots of meetings.

Mr. DOYLE. I mean where the Communist Party program was discussed?

Mr. DAVIS. Well, where the Communist Party—oh, yes, it was discussed. My record is all down. There were many meetings I went to. I went to meetings for Spain, for underground work in Germany, and I met two Communists, whose names I have given, that I know of, because they said they were, and many, many meetings. I can't tell you how many. There were so many.

Mr. JACKSON. My recollection of your statement in the affidavit is that you were asked on one or more occasions to become a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. DAVIS. Yes; I was.

Mr. JACKSON. By Mr. Lawrence?

Mr. DAVIS. Stanley Lawrence; yes.

Mr. JACKSON. Did anyone else during the course of these meetings and in the context of those times ask you at any time to become a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. I can't remember anyone else doing it.

Mr. JACKSON. Were you asked to make any donations to the Communist Party by any person?

Mr. DAVIS. No.

Mr. JACKSON. Other than by Mr. Lawrence?

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Lawrence didn't ask me to make donations to the Communist Party. He asked me to make donations to other things. And this other man, Broida—I don't know how to spell that name. I thought it was Braden, but I have been corrected. It's Broida. He was a German.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you at any time make a donation of \$100 to Mr. Kimple for any purpose?

Mr. DAVIS. To my knowledge I have never made a donation of any kind to Mr. Kimple and I have never see Mr. Kimple in my life to my knowledge; and I can't recall his wife, either.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you make a donation of \$100 for the use of the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. At any time?

Mr. DAVIS. No.

Mr. JACKSON. Actually any donation made for the Republican Army in Spain was a contribution to further the ends of international communism. I would not want a categorical answer to appear to the

effect that you have never made any donation to the Communist Party. Raising funds for the support of the Republican Army in Spain was one of the prime projects of the Communist Party in the United States.

Mr. DAVIS. Yes; I imagine it was.

Mr. JACKSON. So that any donation which would have been made in that connection would have been made for the purposes of the Communist Party.

Mr. DAVIS. In those days, if you will remember, you didn't make donations to the Communist Party. We made donations for blood, for ambulances. And also the largest donation I ever made in my life was to Spain. That was \$1,000, to bring home eight boys from Spain at the end of the war. It cost a hundred and a quarter apiece.

Mr. PACHT. I think it should appear, Mr. Tavenner and gentlemen of the committee, that when Mr. Davis says that he did not make donations to the Communist Party that, as is borne out in his affidavit, some of the organizations and causes to which he admits freely having made donations have been identified subsequently as either Communist or Communist-dominated or Communist-front organizations by witnesses before this committee or, as I understand, by the committee itself. But when Mr. Davis says he did not donate to the Communist Party, he means he was not solicited nor knowingly donated to a Communist cause, knowing that it was a Communist cause, and there should be no mistake about his position. He admits the donations wherever, and will be glad to testify as to any of them; but Mr. Jackson raised the point, and quite properly, that this Spanish cause has since come to be identified as a prime cause of the Communist Party; and Mr. Davis' testimony should not be misunderstood in that context.

Mr. TAVENNER. So there may be no misunderstanding about the question, have you at any time made a contribution of \$100 for the Communist Party through or by delivery of it to an individual?

Mr. DAVIS. No. Not to my—no. I wouldn't have agreed to that. I can't remember anything like that.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say you can't remember?

Mr. DAVIS. No. I mean nothing. I'm sure that my feeling at that time would be that I wouldn't have done it.

Mr. TAVENNER. By that are you tending to say you are uncertain whether you made a contribution to the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. No; not at all. I am trying to emphasize it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Emphasize the fact that you did not?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes; that's right.

Mr. TAVENNER. So your categorical statement is that you did not make a contribution to the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. I did not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Through any individual?

Mr. DAVIS. Through any individual; that's right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you acquainted with a person by the name of John L. Leech?

Mr. DAVIS. That's the fellow who in 1939—I have seen his picture several times, and he is the one who said that my wife and I—that is, it was in the Times—were the biggest—I don't know the—were the biggest or were big donators to the Communist Party, the biggest donators to the Communist Party in Hollywood. This



was when Mr. Dies had a committee. At this time I went—also he accused Freddie March and Phil Dunne and the whole bunch—and at that time I went to the Biltmore—called the Biltmore Hotel and asked for an appointment with Mr. Dies to talk to him. They said that we could see him on Monday. This was on Saturday or Friday that we asked, I remember, and he left for San Francisco on Sunday; never gave us a hearing. Freddie March and Phil Dunne followed him to San Francisco and got their hearings up there and got a retraction from him, but I never followed him. I was working on a picture with my wife. We were busy.

Mr. TAVENNER. A retraction from John Leech?

Mr. DAVIS. No, no, pardon me; from Martin Dies. This all came out through Martin Dies' committee.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now, my question was, Were you acquainted with John L. Leech?

Mr. DAVIS. No. I never—I don't know John Leech at all.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you make a contribution of any amount to John L. Leech?

Mr. DAVIS. No. No. I think I remember—I think I would have known him if I had made a contribution. I am not saying that Stanley Lawrence was the only person to whom I ever gave money for anything. There were other people. I don't remember them now. You would go to a meeting and a collection would be taken up for something, and I would donate to it. I don't remember all the faces or names or anything about it. However, I never knowingly made a donation to the Communist Party through anyone, Leech or anyone. And I don't think I have ever met Leech in my life. His face didn't look familiar to me in 1938 or 1939 or whenever it was that that happened.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you deliver any sum of money to John L. Leech?

Mr. DAVIS. No; not to my knowledge. I have to say that, because if he were a collector at some group I might have delivered some money to him not knowing. But it wouldn't have been for the Communist Party. I have to say that. He was around Hollywood.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you ever turn over to John Leech the sum of \$500?

Mr. DAVIS. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you ever purchase any dues stamps of the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. No, sir; and I have never seen any.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you at any time a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. No, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you at any time attend a Communist Party meeting?

Mr. DAVIS. No, sir. May I qualify that? Unless you say that some of those meetings that I went to were—what did you say? That wasn't a closed meeting of the Communist Party?

Mr. TAVENNER. The meeting that I described to you from the testimony of Mr. Kimple was a meeting at which persons were solicited to make contributions for the Communist Party.

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, no. I have never been to a meeting of that kind. I think I must have been to meetings where there were Communists, but I don't—I was never solicited to make donations to the Communist Party that I recall; but I was solicited to join the Communist Party. I have been solicited to join. But I don't recall being solicited to make a donation, and I certainly never made one.

Mr. TAVENNER. By whom were you solicited to join?

Mr. DAVIS. Stanley Lawrence.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you been solicited by any other person to join the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. When and where were you solicited by Stanley Lawrence to join the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, several times; at meetings, in my own home, the one time that I recall. I don't recall the location just now of where, and I don't recall the number of times. I know it isn't very funny, but it was sort of a joke between us in a way, that he would say, "Well, how do you feel now?" You know, in that sort of attitude.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did John L. Leech attend any meeting at your home?

Mr. DAVIS. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you used any name other than your own name?

Mr. DAVIS. Never.

Mr. TAVENNER. You referred to meetings at which Stanley Lawrence was present, and I believe you said those meetings were at your home.

Mr. DAVIS. Not necessarily meetings. He conducted some Marxist classes, classes in Das Kapital and, oh, Marxist literature, that sort of thing, and he was the teacher. Some of them were held in my home; some were in other places.

Mr. TAVENNER. In what year did those meetings begin?

Mr. DAVIS. Well, now, let me think. I think in 1935 or 1936. I would say the latter part of 1935 or maybe in 1936. I wouldn't be sure of the year exactly, but in that general time.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long did you continue attending those meetings?

Mr. DAVIS. I should think a year or so.

Mr. TAVENNER. How many of such meetings were held in your home?

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, perhaps a dozen, something like that I should say.

Mr. TAVENNER. Altogether how many of the Marxist study group meetings did you attend?

Mr. DAVIS. Well, I think these went on for a year or so. Well, I can tell you this: That we got through with the first book of Das Kapital, but I never went any further. So I don't know how many meetings that would take. There were other pamphlets, smaller books, that were studied also before Das Kapital, written by Marx or Engels or some of those. I imagine around about a year. I couldn't say for sure, 1937.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall whether or not any persons other than the members of that particular group came in to lecture on the subject of communism?

Mr. DAVIS. I don't know—I recall, not in my home, but being in other homes when someone would come in and lecture, but I don't

think it was upon communism. I think it was upon trade unionism. They were generally, it seems to me, the ones—I recall 1 or 2 that were workers or waterfront people, not in the picture business, talked about trade unionism. I don't recall hearing a lecture on communism. We got plenty of that from Lawrence.

May I make one slight correction? The lectures were all on socialism. They weren't on communism. Communism was something that wasn't discussed very much at all, as being a state away in the future, that nobody could quite imagine how it would be if it existed. Everything was socialism.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe you stated that you had made a substantial contribution for the benefit of members of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

Mr. DAVIS. Yes. You mean that \$1,000 we were talking about?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. DAVIS. Yes; to bring the boys home; that's right.

Mr. TAVENNER. To whom did you make that contribution?

Mr. DAVIS. I wrote a check for it—it was at a meeting in Beverly Hills or Hollywood at which a blind boy that had been in the Loyalist Army, an American boy, who had been in the Loyalist Army and had returned, made a speech. His first name was Robert, and I can't remember his last name. I'm pretty sure it was Robert. He was blind. And I honestly can't tell you in whose home it was. I would be perfectly willing to tell you if I knew, but I can't remember now. But he made a very stirring speech. I remember my emotions at the time, and I agreed to give \$500, I remember; and when I came to write the check I wrote it for a thousand. That was the largest donation I ever made.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you a member of the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League?

Mr. DAVIS. I think so. I have to say "I think so." I don't recall ever attending any meetings of the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League. This has been brought up many times before. I think I must have been a member of it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you a member of an organization known as the Citizens Committee for Harry Bridges?

Mr. DAVIS. I don't think I was, but I signed something for Harry Bridges. I don't remember. I never was in a meeting or a member of an organization; I don't recall being a member of any organization; but I remember signing something for Harry Bridges, a petition. I think it was shown to me here one day.

Mr. TAVENNER. There was exhibited to you a letterhead of the Citizens Committee for Harry Bridges on which your name appeared as a member of that committee.

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, well, then, yes. Then I must have given them permission to use my name for it. I don't recall ever refusing it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall the circumstances under which the use of your name was obtained?

Mr. DAVIS. No, sir. I am sorry I can't recall at all the circumstances. In fact, I had forgotten all about it until it was shown to me here. But my name was asked to be used on many things, and I never had to go to a meeting or it was no organization that I knew of at the time. They just thought that the name was effective on a letterhead. Why, I don't know; but they did.



Mr. TAVENNER. Are you aware that that organization was cited by the Attorney General of the United States as a Communist organization?

Mr. DAVIS. I was aware—I was aware of it when I was shown that in the hotel here some years ago; yes. But it wasn't cited at the time I gave it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. DAVIS. Yes; I am aware of it.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have spoken of the pamphlets and literature which were brought to these meetings which you described as study groups conducted by Stanley Lawrence.

Mr. DAVIS. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you become a subscriber to any of the papers or periodicals that were brought to those meetings?

Mr. DAVIS. I bought some of them, but I don't recall being able to subscribe. They were booklets.

Mr. TAVENNER. How about the Daily People's World?

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, the Daily People's World. But then that was after. Well, it may have been during that period. I don't recall. I did subscribe; I subscribed to the Daily People's World for years.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe at that time, the time that you have spoken of these meetings with Stanley Lawrence, that it was the Western Worker which was the organ of the Communist Party.

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, no. No; I didn't subscribe to the Western Worker. I have subscribed to the Daily People's World.

Mr. TAVENNER. You knew that that was an organ of the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. Well, the Daily People's World was first sold to us as not being a Communist sheet. They were very careful to say that. Stanley Lawrence was, whoever subscribed—got my subscription. I don't know. I don't believe it was Stanley Lawrence. But they said: "This is a progressive sheet. We don't deny that there may be Communists in it, but it is not a Communist Party sheet," they said.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long did you remain a subscriber to it?

Mr. DAVIS. Well, I tried to answer that. Don't I tell in that affidavit? I don't know. Maybe I don't. I should say that I took the Daily People's World until maybe 2 or 3 years ago, I think. My wife stopped it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you also a subscriber to New Masses?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes, until it folded.

Mr. TAVENNER. In the March 29, 1938, issue of New Masses, at page 21, there is an article regarding a cable sent by the Hollywood chapter of the League of American Writers to the French Ambassador, to President Roosevelt, and to the then Secretary of State Cordell Hull, urging aid to Loyalist Spain. According to that article in the New Masses, which article has previously been exhibited to you, the name of Frank Davis appears as one of those who signed that cable.

Mr. DAVIS. Yes. I have admitted to that. Yes. Even though I don't recall it, I admit to it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee whether the Communist Party was instrumental in getting your signature or whether Communist Party members were instrumental in getting your signature to that plea?

Mr. DAVIS. I honestly don't know to whom I gave my signature. I don't know who walked up to me and said, "Will you sign this?" I haven't the foggiest idea. I don't really remember signing it. But it was something that I would have signed if anyone had asked me. That's why I admit to it; because I must have signed it. It is in keeping with my beliefs at the time, so I would have signed it no matter who walked up to me and asked me to sign it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you become one of the signatories to an amicus curiae brief that was filed on behalf of John Howard Lawson and Dalton Trumbo?

Mr. DAVIS. Yes; I did. Yes; I think I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee to what extent the Communist Party was instrumental in obtaining your signature?

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, none at all. None at all. Let me see. Could you tell me what year that was? Because it seems to me I was working in a studio at the time and they came around with this.

Mr. TAVENNER. The date was October 1949.

Mr. DAVIS. 1949. Well, I was working. It must have been Fox. They came around—someone came around with it, some writer undoubtedly, and said: This is the amicus curiae that you have all been hearing about; do you want to sign it? And I said sure. I signed it. It's done just like that.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who procured your signature to it?

Mr. DAVIS. I haven't any idea. There were many, many who believed in this at the time. I don't think they were Communists at all. I had nothing to do with communism or socialism. Do you know that I hardly know anyone who didn't belong to the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League?

Mr. PACHT. They had a pretty big membership.

Mr. DAVIS. Yes. I don't recall it.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your address in 1932?

Mr. DAVIS. I am just trying to think now. I think it was 424 Ninth Street, Santa Monica.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you ever live at 1390 Newton Street, Los Angeles?

Mr. DAVIS. No. I have never lived in Los Angeles—or, well, I guess I live in it now, Pacific Palisades. But I have never lived anywhere inland.

Mr. TAVENNER. You never lived at that address which I mentioned?

Mr. DAVIS. Never.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions.

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Jackson?

Mr. JACKSON. Yes; there are several points I would like to pinpoint very clearly for the record.

In the first place, Mr. Davis, do you categorically deny that you have ever been a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. I do.

Mr. JACKSON. And deny that you ever paid dues knowingly to the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. I do.

Mr. JACKSON. Do you deny that you have ever met William Ward Kimple, sometimes known as William Ward, an undercover agent for the Los Angeles Police Department in the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. I have never met him.

Mr. JACKSON. Have you ever met his wife, known as Clara Kimple?

Mr. DAVIS. No; not to my knowledge, I have never met her.

Mr. JACKSON. Or Clara Ward.

Do you further deny that at any time you turned over the sum of \$500 to be used for the purposes of the Communist Party at the La Cava home?

Mr. DAVIS. I do. I deny that.

Mr. JACKSON. You further deny under your oath that you transferred a Ford automobile or any other vehicle at any time to the Communist Party or a functionary of the Communist Party for its use?

Mr. DAVIS. I deny it.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions.

Mr. DOYLE. I have a few brief ones.

Referring to page 5 of your affidavit, Mr. Davis, which your counsel presented and which you signed and swore to September 19, 1955, and which we have received, I notice this:

I did join and participate in a number of other organizations or movements which were current during the period in Hollywood. I did not know that any of these were controlled by the Communist Party, although I did know that purported Communists were members of some of them.

Mr. DAVIS. People who were said to have been Communists, that you sort of felt were, but you didn't know. I think that's what that means, the way it is expressed there.

Mr. DOYLE. I notice this statement by you:

I did not think this significant, because at the time the Communist Party had a degree of respectability.

Mr. DAVIS. Yes; that's right.

Mr. DOYLE. I noticed that because you emphasize that you didn't discuss communism; you discussed socialism.

Mr. DAVIS. Well, you see, if you had studied Marxism the way I did, you find that they are not trying to sell communism, they are selling socialism. That was supposed to be the thing, at that time when they referred to the Soviet Union, Russia, they said that's what they were trying to build in Russia at that time, was socialism. They never talked about communism.

Mr. DOYLE. Then I notice this:

As to a number of these—

referring to the movements—

both my wife and I were members of or at least contributed.

Mr. DAVIS. That refers to these organizations such as the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League or any organization that was an aid for Spain, any organization that was for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys, any—I don't know the names of these organizations, but we decided in making this affidavit to really give the names of organizations when they weren't doing anything but just collections.

Mr. DOYLE. Did you give the sum of \$500 to any organization not knowing that it was a Communist organization?

Mr. DAVIS. This is quite possible. A thousand, I think, is the most I ever gave; but it is quite possible that I have given sums to at least \$500.



Mr. DOYLE. In view of your affidavit and your testimony, I am wondering if you now recall on any occasion giving \$500 to any organization at any meeting which might well have been itself one of these which later became a Communist front or was designated as Communist front.

Mr. DAVIS. Well, I can't be sure of this, but I think that I gave 5—I can't be sure of this—but I think that I gave \$500. That is, my wife and I together, because it was together. We worked together; we were a team.

Mr. DOYLE. I see from your affidavit you were.

Mr. DAVIS. For an ambulance once, to buy an ambulance for Spain, and I believe that it was \$500; but I don't know that it was. Five hundred is a sum when we were flush we sort of felt we might give, although, as you see from the affidavit, I believe that I recall giving the sum of \$200 more often than any other sum.

Mr. DOYLE. I bring that up because the sum of \$500 is in controversy, as far as Mr. Kimple is concerned.

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, I see. I undoubtedly have given as much as \$500 to things, and I recall once—because I think it was at this hotel—that the \$500 was collected and an ambulance was brought up out in front.

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Chairman, may I?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes.

Mr. JACKSON. I don't want to becloud the specific \$500 at the La Cava home.

Mr. DAVIS. Yes; I understand.

Mr. JACKSON. And your answer so stands, Mr. Davis, on that?

Mr. DAVIS. It still stands.

Mr. JACKSON. That you did not give Mr. or Mrs. Kimple that amount?

Mr. DAVIS. That's right.

Mr. DOYLE. The reason I directed those questions, Mr. Jackson, was that from his affidavit and his testimony, if you take them together, it might have been possible that he gave \$500 to some worthy movement and—

Mr. PACT. Or to some collector, Mr. Doyle, may I suggest, whose name was not known to Mr. Davis.

Mr. DOYLE. And that Mr. Kimple had knowledge of some such gift for the ambulance or something else on your part, or on the part of you and your wife, and made the report that it was to the Communist Party. You evidently gave to many of them.

Mr. DAVIS. May I say something in this connection?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes.

Mr. DAVIS. I knew Stanley Lawrence very well. He was a sort of fellow—well, he liked to blow his own horn a lot. He liked to tell you how many strike situations he had been in, severe ones, you know. We didn't know anything about strikes in Hollywood, about labor situations. And he was a man who was quite an intellectual, and at the same time he could talk out of the other side of his mouth and be a real Brooklynesse sort of fellow. And he liked to talk and brag a little bit. Now, I am only saying this in connection with what you have said and what a member of the Federal Bureau of Investigation said, whose name I do not know—but it would have been very

easy to find out—because he came with me and he was the superior of Shirley Temple's brother, who is an FBI man, and introduced himself as such. He brought him. And after—they were concerned mainly with money. They didn't cover nearly as many questions as Mr. Wheeler did when he asked me about these things, but they were concerned mainly with money. And after I had answered these things, just as you did, he said, "Well, isn't it possible that this fellow Lawrence would take a donation of yours and go downtown with it and say, 'I have got this fellow, he's one of us, and he's going to give this every month,' and so on." Well, he asked me the question, and I said, "Well, I don't know that it's possible." "Isn't it probable?" he said. And I said I didn't know that it was probable but that it's possible, but I can't answer that for sure. This was the conclusion that he came to in my home a few months ago. He thought that could have happened.

Mr. DOYLE. Did Mr. Lawrence ever put an application blank under your nose to sign?

Mr. DAVIS. No, no; nothing like that.

Mr. DOYLE. To join the Communist Party?

Mr. DAVIS. No.

Mr. DOYLE. I have nothing else.

Mr. DAVIS. I would like to ask off the record, though, if I might.

Mr. JACKSON. May I complete this?

Mr. DAVIS. Oh, I'm sorry.

Mr. JACKSON. Then we will get this out of the way.

I think your testimony is that you had never met John L. Leech?

Mr. DAVIS. That is to my knowledge. I have never met him; never seen him.

Mr. JACKSON. Your only knowledge of the individual was the incident that grew out of his statements before the committee?

Mr. DAVIS. That's right, correct.

Mr. JACKSON. You therefore never turned over any money to Mr. Leech?

Mr. DAVIS. But I have heard of him. I never met him, but I had heard of him.

Mr. JACKSON. But you did not turn any money over to him?

Mr. DAVIS. No.

Mr. DOYLE. Any other questions?

Mr. TAVENNER. No, sir.

Mr. DOYLE. Any further questions, Mr. Jackson?

Mr. JACKSON. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is all. Mr. Davis is excused.

(Whereupon, at 4:25 p. m. Thursday, October 13, 1955, the executive hearing of the witness was adjourned.)





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